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Mysodendron punctulatum, a parasite allied to the mistletoe, growing on the living branches of the evergreen beech.

On the morning of December 2d, we left the Strait of Magellan, and turning northward entered Smythe's Channel, which skirts the western coast of Patagonia. The vegetation of its banks differed scarcely at all from that which I have just described. In addition, however, to the plants which I had collected I found a handsome shrub, *Desfontainea spinosa*, with beautiful scarlet tubular flowers lined with yellow and with glossy, prickly, holly-like leaves. And I also collected here a conifer, which I neglected to mention before, *Libocedrus tetragona*, belonging to the Cupressineæ.

The *Desfontainea* belongs to the Loganiaceæ, a family which, together with the Proteaceæ, the genera *Libocedrus*, *Araucaria* and a few others, constitute the element in the South American flora which allies it with that of Australia and New Zealand.

In conclusion, I may mention that as in the Northern Hemisphere, many arctic plants reappear in the Alpine regions of Europe, Asia and America, so among the plants which I afterward collected in the higher regions of the Andes of Peru there were several which in the Strait of Magellan and on the shores of Terra del Fuego grow at the level of the sea.

As we advanced northward the channel would sometimes be so dotted with islands that we would almost be bewildered, scarcely knowing which was our path, which was island or which was the shore of the mainland; and then it would contract into a straight, narrow "reach" down which we could see for miles, the flanking mountains fading to a deep purple in the distance. Thus we continued on our way, vista after vista opening before us as we advanced, until reaching Trinidad Channel, when we turned once more to the westward, and, leaving behind us the sheltered inland waters, glided out upon the heaving bosom of the Pacific Ocean.

At Sea, making passage between Callao and Honolulu, Oct. 10, 1887.

Capsicum umbilicatum.

Last season, in the garden of the New York Agricultural Experiment Station, I grew from some *Capsicum* seed received

through the kindness of Professor Orville A. Derby, of Rio Janeiro, a number of plants which I think are to be referred to *Capsicum umbilicatum*, Vellozo. As this pepper seems never to have been described from specimens, and as our plants differ somewhat from the description by Dunal, the following communication may be of service :

CAPSICUM UMBILICATUM, Vell., Fl. flum., ii., t. 7. Dunal in DC., Prod., xiii., 428. Vernacular name, "Pimentao fundo de garraba. Bottle-bottomed." Shrub about 2 feet tall or more, erect, branches deep green, distinctly four-angled, minutely pubescent on younger growth, especially about nodes. Leaves deep green above, paler below, ovate, shortly acuminate, much rounded at base, extending slightly into petiole often unequally, much puffed, largest ones 5 in. long by $3\frac{1}{8}$ in. broad, but usually about 2 in. long by $1\frac{7}{8}$ in. broad, sparingly pubescent, on margins minutely ciliate, solitary below, in twos and threes above. Petioles rather short, in general $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ in. long, ciliate. Peduncles solitary or rarely geminate, subangular, pendant, evenly enlarging towards calyx end, in young specimens sub-hairy. Corolla about $\frac{5}{8}$ in. diameter, greenish. Calyx lobes very flat, lacerated, border thin and membranaceous, five to six-toothed, the teeth acute, ten-nerved, the five shorter nerves being somewhat obscure. Berry seated on the calyx, about $1\frac{1}{8}$ in. long by $\frac{7}{8}$ in. diameter, turbinate, broad at the apex, scalloped, with a usually projecting nipple or boss from the center, at first green, then brown on side next the sun, finally red, cells 3-5, usually 4, acrid.

The plant set out with other peppers in the spring, ripened its fruit before frost, and was reasonably prolific. The puffed surface of the leaf gave it a quite distinct aspect. In some of the fruits the boss was depressed within the scalloped border; in most, however, it was projecting. Whether this is a distinct species I do not care yet to decide, as I have three other varieties of a common aspect, but differing in the fruit. At any rate it is an extremely well marked variety.

E. LEWIS STURTEVANT.

SO. FRAMINGHAM, MASS., Feb. 2, 1888.